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DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF FISHES
FROM OFF CAPE SAN LUCAS, LOWER CALIFORNIA

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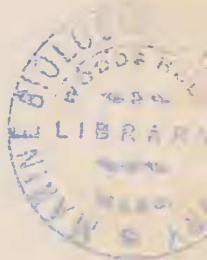
In June, 1927, Mr. Albert E. Colburn of Los Angeles, California, sent to the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences the skins of two large fishes. Of the first, a species of *Seriola*, he wrote: "It certainly has all the characteristics of the Yellow-tail [*Seriola dorsalis*], excepting that of color, in which respect it differs widely." Careful examination, however, shows it to be different in certain other respects, as will be shown by the following description:

Seriola colburni, new species

Plate 27

Head 3.5 in body length; depth 3.6; D. V-I, 30; A. II, I, 21; scales small and irregular, about 22-167-30; eye 7.6 in head; snout 2.4; mandible 2.1; maxillary 2.4, broad, fanshaped, with a broad fanshaped accessory bone, its edge slipping under the overlapping edge of the preorbital, barely reaching anterior margin of orbit; head naked, except cheeks, which are well covered with ordinary scales; occipital crest rather prominent. Pectorals rather broad, the rays 21, the length 2.07 in head; ventrals somewhat narrower than pectorals but of the same length; soft dorsal characterized by a high falcate lobe, the

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membrane of the lobe being thick and leathery, the longest ray 1.6 in head and considerably more than half depth of body; anal with a similar thick, falcate lobe, its longest ray 1.26 in head.

Color, upper third of body dark leaden, lower two-thirds somewhat silvery; pectoral, dorsal and anal dusky with a wash of yellow; ventrals paler, caudal dusky.

Type: No. 2164, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., 49 inches long, caught by Mr. W. J. Hole, in June, 1927, off **Cape San Lucas, Lower California**. No other specimens are known.

The fish represented by the skin in our collection differs from all the other Pacific species known to us in the high falcate anterior lobe of the soft dorsal and anal, the longest ray in each being more than half depth of body. This feature is most nearly approached in *Seriola dorsalis* and *S. grandis*, as shown by published figures, but is hardly marked in *S. purpurascens* and *S. sparna*. In this feature, in color, and count of dorsal and anal rays, our specimen approaches most closely to the Atlantic *S. falcata*, which, in addition to having an entirely different distribution, is a smaller, deeper fish.

We name this species for Mr. Albert E. Colburn as a slight recognition of his interest in fishes and his kind thoughtfulness in sending us interesting specimens of fishes from time to time.

A few days later we received from Mr. Colburn the skin of another large fish also taken by Mr. W. J. Hole.

This fish apparently represents a new family, the *Jordanichthyidæ*, in some respects intermediate between the spariform and non-spariform percoids. In the absence of a skeleton its relationships cannot be clearly ascertained. The specimen upon which the species is based bears, however, a striking, even if superficial, resemblance to certain members of the Lutianidæ near which this family probably belongs. The family derives its name from the type genus *Jordanichthys*, named for Dr. David Starr Jordan, who at once recognized the specimen as a representative of a new family. The genus may be briefly described as follows:

Jordanichthys, new genus

Type: Jordanichthys holei Evermann & Clark, new genus.

Percoids resembling the spariform percoids in having the maxillary slipping in a groove in the edge of the broad pre-orbital, the groove, however, shallow; accessory ventral scale, if present at all, represented by a small rudiment. *No lateral line.*

It is with real pleasure that we name this new genus for Dr. David Starr Jordan, Nestor of American ichthyologists and our friend and mentor for half a century.

Jordanichthys holei, new species

Boca fuerte. Plate 28

Body length 42 inches. Head 3.37 in body; depth 3.88; eye 8.6 in head; snout 2.22; maxillary 2.22 = snout; mandible 2.02; D. X, 13 or rather VII, I-I-I, 13, part of the membrane lacking (perhaps abnormal); origin of dorsal above base of pectoral; A. III?, 8 (some of the spines removed), the fin very short in base; base appearing as if with a scale-like peduncle. P. 16, base narrow, fifth ray longest, the fin acute, length of longest ray 1.7 in head, its tip reaching beyond tip of ventral; V. I, 5, its rays coarse and strong, second ray longest, 2.3 in head. *No lateral line.* Scales 17-60, the scales large, thin, parchment-like, cycloid, covered to near the edge with thin, lead-colored tinfoil-like skin, the exposed portion of scale deeper than long. Caudal with about 22 rays, slightly emarginate, its membranes and those of the soft dorsal densely scaled.

Cheeks and opercles scaly, rest of head naked. Premaxillary protractile; maxillary moderately broad and thick, with a ridge about the center, its posterior margin a convex arc, its anterior slightly concave. It slips partly into a shallow groove under the edge of the very broad preorbital; a peculiar truncate lobe at the end of the groove. Teeth, a few large canines in upper jaw, and a row of smaller ones in the lower jaw. Irregular villiform patches on the large thick tongue: villiform teeth on palatines, none on vomer. Axil of pectoral and its posterior base scaleless, forming a leathery patch, above which is a leathery lobe perhaps representing an accessory

scale; anterior base of pectoral scaled; a somewhat larger scale at base of ventrals; interorbital a high crest about twice width of eye; preopercle very minutely serrate. The large round scales remind one rather strikingly of those of the parrot-fishes.

A photograph of another specimen of the same species, marked "Cape San Lucas, Mar. 15, 1927" and contributed by Mr. Colburn, shows a marked difference in the anal fin, which, unlike that of the type, shows a broad base (broader than depth of caudal peduncle), a much greater length (longest ray about 1.25 in base of fin), and the outline of the fin broadly rounded. This form and size of anal is probably more characteristic of the species than that of the type.

Of the type specimen Mr. Colburn wrote: "This specimen was taken in March, 1927, at Cape San Lucas, Lower California, by Willitts J. Hole of Los Angeles. The species is apparently common along the rocky shores where the water is sufficiently deep to offer sea-room. A number of these were caught by our fishermen with trolling spoons as lures. The natives refer to it as *Boca fuerte*, but up to date we have been unable properly to identify it. It is a strong and vigorous fighter and difficult to land on account of the fighting strength as well as its habit of anchoring beneath a rock with the subsequent breaking of the line. It is a dull brownish-olive along the back, shading into a deep reddish pink on the sides and gradually blending into a pale salmon-pink throughout the entire belly area, and shows a brilliant iridescence when first taken from the water."

Type: No. 2165, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., a specimen 46.75 inches long, taken in March, 1927, by Willitts J. Hole, at **Cape San Lucas, Lower California.**

We take pleasure in naming this very interesting species for Mr. Willitts J. Hole, ardent angler of Los Angeles, Calif., who takes a scientific interest in the fishes he captures and who has preserved many of them for scientific study.